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Agenda item 120

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Letter dated 27 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to refer to my letter addressed to the President of the General Assembly dated 22 September 1995, which was forwarded to you on 12 October 1995. I would be grateful if the aforementioned letter and the attached draft resolution could be circulated as a document of the Fifth Committee under agenda item 120.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Permanent Representative

95-37360 (E) 281195 291195

/...

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

LETTER DATED 22 SEPTEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, in connection with its arrears, Iraq submitted a request to the Committee on Contributions at its fifty-fifth session, held from 12 to 30 June 1995, that Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations be waived for Iraq in view of the fact that its inability to pay was due to reasons beyond its control, namely the comprehensive embargo imposed on it by Security Council resolutions and the freezing of its assets abroad.

As mentioned in the paragraph on the status of Iraq contained in its report to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, 1/ the Committee on Contributions stated that some of its members were of the opinion that the waiver of Article 19 for Iraq should be recommended, whereas other members were of the view that the Committee did not have adequate statistical information on the current economic and financial situation of Iraq. Yet other members expressed the view that the issue involved political questions outside the mandate of the Committee, given that it is a technical committee.

In view of the lack of consensus in the Committee and the contention of some members that the issue is outside its mandate, as well as the importance that Iraq attaches to being given the right to vote in the General Assembly during this historical fiftieth session and inasmuch as Iraq is a founder Member of the United Nations that has never before been unpunctual in fulfilling its obligations to the United Nations, not to mention the assistance that it used to provide to a number of the social and humanitarian activities of the United Nations, my country's delegation requests that the draft resolution annexed hereto should be submitted to the General Assembly for a decision thereon as soon as possible.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Permanent Representative

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/50/11).

Appendix

[Original: Arabic]

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Recalling the section on the status of Iraq contained in the report of the Committee on Contributions to the fiftieth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, 1/ which states, inter alia, that some members of the Committee were of the view that the issue of the waiver of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations for Iraq involved political questions outside the mandate of the Committee,

Bearing in mind that the Government of Iraq has expressed its willingness to pay its arrears when the sanctions imposed on it by Security Council resolutions are lifted or mitigated,

Decides, as a special and temporary arrangement, that the accumulated arrears of the Republic of Iraq were due to conditions beyond its control and that, accordingly, it is inappropriate in this regard to apply Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations relating to loss of the right to vote in the General Assembly until the sanctions imposed on Iraq by Security Council resolutions are fully or partially lifted.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/50/11).